

Fruits

Utah's 1998 preliminary estimates of fruit production were lower than the previous year for peaches while apple, tart cherry, apricot, sweet cherry, and pear were up. Prices were lower for sweet cherries and pears, but higher for apples and apricots. Peach prices remained the same. Estimates are subject to revision July 7, 1999.

Apple production during 1998, at 49 million pounds, was 17 percent higher than the 1997 crop, but utilized production, at 31 million pounds, was down 24 percent. Producers received an average price of 18.0 cents per pound, 1.5 cents more than the previous year. The 1998 total value of utilized production, at \$5.6 million, was 17 percent lower than the previous year.

The 1998 **apricot production** was 200 tons. Utilized production was 180 tons, 38 percent higher than 1997. The average price received by growers was \$728 per ton, up \$236 from 1997. The 1998 total value of production was \$131,000.

Peach production, at 7.7 million pounds, was 5

percent lower than 1997. Utilized production was 7.0 million pounds compared with 7.6 million pounds in 1997. Average price per pound was 27 cents bringing total value of the crop to \$1.9 million, 8 percent lower than 1997.

Pear production, at 900 tons, was 29 percent higher than the year before. The average price received by growers was \$307 per ton, \$279 per ton less than 1997. Total value of the crop was \$267,000, down 30 percent from the year earlier.

Sweet Cherry producers harvested 2,800 tons, 2,080 tons more than 1997. Utilized production was 2,700 tons. Average price received by growers was \$687 per ton, down \$233 from the previous year. The total value of the crop was \$1.9 million, up 188 percent from 1997.

Tart Cherry production during 1998 was 33.0 million pounds, 89 percent higher than 1997. Utilized production was 27.0 million pounds. Tart cherry prices for the 1998 crop will not be published until July 7, 1999.

Utah Tart Cherry, Apple, and Peach Utilized Production 1991-1998

Utilized Production (million pounds)

